

Languages, Learning and Culture

Montanuniversität Leoben

**To have another language is
to possess a second soul.**

Charlemagne

**Course Program
Summer Semester
2025**

**Foreign Language Proficiency & Key Competencies
Sprachkurse und Schlüsselkompetenzen**

Languages, Learning and Culture

Montanuniversität Leoben

Peter-Tunner-Straße 15

8700 Leoben

+43 3842 402 6410



Registration

- Registration via MUonline
- To secure your spot, please pay the course fee by **28 February 2025**.
- If you're on the waiting list, you'll be automatically assigned a permanent spot if one becomes available.
- You can cancel or modify your booking until **14 March 2025**.

Course Payment

Please transfer the course fee to the following account:

Steiermärkische Sparkasse

Recipient: ZSBK Montanuniversität Leoben

IBAN: AT61 2081 5000 4126 9531

BIC: STSPAT2GXXX

**Please enter the 6-digit course number +
your "Matrikelnummer" (enrollment
number)
as purpose of payment**

Languages



English 2: Language Consolidation B2

641.564

Mathew Rayment

- Prerequisite: A2+/B1
- €45
- 3 lessons/week
- 3 ECTS

Mondays 14:30 - 17:00

CONTENT

- The emphasis of this course is on extending and using what you know.
- It is designed to improve your overall level of English and increase your ability in English to a higher level to help you achieve your professional, academic or personal goals.
- It focuses on presenting natural, real-world grammar and vocabulary in meaningful and enjoyable ways and improving all four language skills.
- Vocabulary expansion
- Discussing current affairs, small talk, socializing

English 4: Advanced C1.2

641.542

Mathew Rayment

- Prerequisite: B2+/C1.2
- €35
- 2 hours/week
- 2 ECTS

Tuesdays 16:00 - 18:00

CONTENT

The focus of this course is communication proficiency in English. This is reinforced through a classroom climate that is both communicative and engaging. Students are encouraged to express sophisticated ideas and opinions in English. Topics include features of fluent speech, the language of persuasion, pitching ideas, and the language of presentations.

English for Academic Purposes

641.538

Jennifer Fink

- Prerequisite: B2
- €50
- 4 lessons/week
- 4 ECTS

Tuesdays 09:45 - 13:00

CONTENT

- This intensive course is designed to prepare international & local students to enter and succeed in a degree program at the Montanuniversität Leoben.
- Coursework includes practice in each of the four language skills, with special emphasis placed on developing students' confidence and flexibility in using English for academic purposes.

English for Academic Purposes

II

641.448

Jennifer Fink

- Prerequisite: B2
- €35
- 2 lessons/week
- 2 ECTS

Course times: see MUonline

CONTENT

This course is designed to expand and build on a strong foundation achieved in the Academic English I course to further develop students' use of English in an academic environment. EAP II aims to support students enrolled in English-language degree programs and/or preparing to write and present in an academic context (e.g. abstracts, articles, research proposals, theses) in English.

English Business Focus B2

641.544

Mathew Rayment

- Prerequisite: B2
- €45
- 3 lessons/week
- 3 ECTS

Tuesdays 13:30 - 16:00

CONTENT

Business topics are taught using fun and communicative tasks and games. Participants will create their own companies and use these structures to apply the topics and challenges during the course.

- Business topics - meetings, negotiations, organisational structure, marketing, HR, finance including financial reporting - TPL Account and balance sheets, consolidated annual report and accounts

Stocks and shares and how international trading functions.

- Written correspondance - emails and reports
- Intercultural aspects in a business context
- Creating and giving presentations
- Identifying current and future business trends

English Debating Skills Course

641.332

Mathew Rayment

- Prerequisite: B2
- €35
- 1 lesson/week
- 1 ECTS

Course times: see MUonline

CONTENT

The focus of the course is to gain a level of proficiency in debating. Topics include: Identifying fact vs. opinion, critical thinking, language of persuasion, case building, brainstorming, overcoming apprehension, flowing, debate structure, debate practice, and dealing with audience questions. Participants are given input through attending one of the two possible input days, and then take part in live debates that are attended by the group as a whole and potentially by interested members of the university – staff and students. Students are expected to be a part of at least one debate and submit reviews of four debates.

English Debating Skills Course

641.334

Mathew Rayment

- Prerequisite: B2
- €35
- 2 lessons/week
- 2 ECTS

Course times: see MUonline

CONTENT

The focus of the course is to gain a level of proficiency in debating. Topics include: Identifying fact vs. opinion, critical thinking, language of persuasion, case building, brainstorming, overcoming apprehension, flowing, debate structure, debate practice, and dealing with audience questions. Participants are given input through attending one of the two possible input days, and then take part in live debates that are attended by the group as a whole and potentially by interested members of the university – staff and students. Students are expected to be a part of at least one debate and submit reviews of eight debates.

Exam Preparation: TOEFL & IELTS

641.546

Jennifer Fink

- Prerequisite: B2
- €35
- 2 lessons/week
- 2 ECTS

Wednesdays 15:30 - 17:00

CONTENT

This exam preparation course prepares you for the IELTS (International English Language Testing System) and/ or the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) if you plan to study or work where English is the language of communication. IELTS/ TOEFL scores are recognized by universities and colleges, employers, immigration authorities and professional bodies.

English for Engineers (Polymer Science) - Application of the Basics

641.568

Marinus Bouwman

- Prerequisite: none
- € 35
- Blocked sessions
- 2 ECTS

Tuesdays 17:00 - 19:30

CONTENT

Discussions and activities based on topics in polymer science, including:

- the periodic table in English
- the pronunciation of chemistry: from acrylic to polyethylene terephthalate
- polymer materials (thermoplasts, thermoplasts, elastomers & resins; fibers, sheets, tubes & films)
- Why not plastic?
- the extrusion process
- 3D printers
- from the well to the nozzle: the logistics of polymer production
- problem-solving meetings

Advanced English Communication in Engineering C1

641.552

Marinus Bouwman

- Prerequisite: B2+/C1
- €35
- Blocked sessions
- 2 ECTS

Thursdays 17:00 - 20:00

CONTENT

The course examines topics of particular interest to (modern) engineers, primarily outside their immediate fields of specialization. These include risk management, economic considerations, environmental impact, corporate / institutional accountability (aka CSR) and presentation skills tailored for engineers. Students are expected to bring their knowledge of their specific fields into all aspects of this English course.

French A1.2

641.668

Martina Reisinger

- Prerequisite: A1.1
- €50
- 4 lessons/week
- 4 ECTS

Mondays & Thursdays 14:30 - 16:45

CONTENT

You build on your basic knowledge and learn to express yourself clearly in familiar situations.

You discover other French regions.

You can use simple linguistic means to talk about known topics, such as travel, friends, family or leisure time and write short, simple texts.

Spanish A1.1

641.516

Inmaculada Uclés Córdoba

- Prerequisite: none
- €50
- 4 lessons/week
- 4 ECTS

Mondays & Thursdays 17:00 - 18:30

CONTENT

- Basic vocabulary and basic grammar
- Basic communication situations (greetings, giving personal information)
- Making suggestions, ordering in a restaurant, shopping at the market, getting to know authentic situations
- Introducing yourself and your family
- Panamericana and eating habits
- Phonetics of Spanish: Learning pronunciation, correct intonation

Spanish A1.2

641.510

Inmaculada Uclés Córdoba

- Prerequisite: A1.1
- €50
- 4 lessons/week
- 4 ECTS

Mondays & Thursdays 15:00 - 16:30

CONTENT

- Everyday communication situations (making suggestions, ordering in a restaurant, talking about leisure activities, expressing one's opinion, describing the way, talking about clothes, describing a flat, giving quantities, etc.)
- Intercultural topics
- Speaking about the future, probability and possibility

Spanish A2.2

641.512

Francisco Uclés Sánchez

- Prerequisite: A2.1
- €50
- 4 lessons/week
- 4 ECTS

Tuesdays 16:15 - 17:45 &
Thursdays 17:45 - 19:15

CONTENT

- Developing the four skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing
- Communication in private and business contexts
- Expanding vocabulary
- Grammar skills
- Focus on cultural and political topics of Spain and Latin America

Spanish B1.2/Dele Preparation

641.623

Francisco Uclés Sánchez

- Prerequisite: B1.1
- €50
- 4 lessons/week
- 4 ECTS

**Mondays 16:00 - 17:30 &
Tuesdays 17:45 - 19:15**

CONTENT

- Expansion of communicative, grammatical and intercultural competence
- Preparation for the DELE: The Diplomas de Español como Lengua Extranjera (DELE) are official certificates of Spanish language proficiency awarded by the Instituto Cervantes on behalf of the Spanish Ministry of Education and Science.

Spanish for Professional Purposes

641.584

Francisco Uclés Sánchez

- Prerequisite: A2
- €35
- 2 lessons/week
- 1 ECTS

Tuesdays 14:45 -16:15

CONTENT

- Standard situations at the workplace, such as arranging and conducting meetings, making complaints and requests
- Motivation and communication at the workplace, conflict management
- Applying for a job in a Spanish-speaking country
- Talking about manufacturing processes
- Talking about Industry 4.0 and the digitalization of the economy
- Grammar review

Italian A1.2

641.572

Laura Checconi

- Prerequisite: A1.1
- €45
- 3 lessons/week
- 3 ECTS

Tuesdays 16:30 -19:00

CONTENT

- Simple situations from everyday life
- Insights into the culture of Italy
- Insights into Italian-speaking countries
- Reading, listening, writing and speaking skills

Portuguese A1.2

641.574

Marion Gringinger

- Prerequisite: A1.1
- €45
- 3 lessons/week
- 3 ECTS

Mondays 16:30 - 19:00

CONTENT

- Simple situations from everyday life
- Insights into the culture of Portugal and other Portuguese-speaking countries
- Reading, listening, writing and speaking skills

German A1.1

641.554

Sandra Ganzer & Elisa Rieger

- Prerequisite: none
- €50
- 4 lessons/week
- 4 ECTS

Course times: see MUonline

CONTENT

- Basic knowledge of the German language
- Basic grammar
- Basic communicative situations (greeting, giving personal information, suggestions, restaurant, hobbies, opinions, etc.)

German A1.2

641.556

Sandra Ganzer & Markus Oberländer

- Prerequisite: A1.1
- €50
- 4 lessons/week
- 4 ECTS

Course times: see MUonline

CONTENT

- Repetition and consolidation of German level A1.1
- Vocabulary expansion and revision
- Basic grammar topics such as reflexive verbs, conjunctions, tenses and articles
- Topics: job, family, living, culture, visits, work, nutrition
- Working on and improving the four language skills
- Instructions for autonomous language acquisition

German A2.1

641.551

Ingrid Unterhauser

- Prerequisite: A1.2
- €50
- 4 lessons/week
- 4 ECTS

Mondays & Wednesdays 13:30 - 15:00

CONTENT

Vocabulary development on the topics:

- Childhood memories and family stories
- Work and everyday life
- Events, sport and fitness
- Holidays and travel
- Mobility in the city

Grammar extension:

- Connectors because, therefore, if and that
- Possessive articles in the nominative, accusative and dative cases
- Temporal prepositions about, since, until
- Subjunctive II
- Verbs with alternating prepositions
- Indirect questions with how long and if

German A2.2

641.558

Martina Reisinger

- Prerequisite: A2.1
- €50
- 4 lessons/week
- 4 ECTS

Mondays & Thursdays 12:00 - 14:30

CONTENT

- Vocabulary expansion and revision
- New aspects of grammar, such as the passive voice, prepositions, and conjunctions
- Topics: learning languages, the media, tourism, weather and climate, mobility, working abroad

German B1.2

641.580

Angela Krauhs & Sandra Ganzer

- Prerequisite: B1.1
- €50
- 4 lessons/week
- 4 ECTS

**Mondays 12:00 - 13:30 &
Thursdays 13:00 - 14:30**

CONTENT

- More complex situations of communication
- Topics: language, further training, job interviews, issues of politics and today's society, environment, climate and visions for the future
- Focus on the culture of the German-speaking countries, education, economic issues, today's society, public services and administration

German B2.2

641.582

Angela Krauhs & Markus Oberländer

- Prerequisite: B2.1
- €50
- 4 lessons/week
- 4 ECTS

Tuesdays 16:30 - 18:00 &

Thursdays 14:45 - 16:15

CONTENT

- Developing the four skills reading, listening, writing and speaking for private, professional and academic purposes
- Expansion of vocabulary, discussion of current topics
- Review of basic grammar and advanced grammar concepts

German C1.2

641.585

Sandra Ganzer

- Prerequisite: C1.1
- €50
- 4 lessons/week
- 4 ECTS

Mondays & Wednesdays 18:00 - 19:30

CONTENT

Perfecting your language skills:

- Writing texts for social, professional and/or academic purposes
- Using connectors and cohesive devices in text production
- Differentiating
- Discussing current topics and improving communicative skills
- Giving presentations

Chinese A1.1

641.576

- Prerequisite: none
- €180
- 3 lessons/week
- 3 ECTS

Course times: see MUonline

CONTENT

After the course, participants will be able to

- apply the pronunciation rules of Chinese
- read and write simple characters
- express themselves in simple standard situations (e.g. introduce themselves) using very simple linguistic means and understand others in such situations if they speak slowly and show consideration
- ask people questions about themselves, e.g. name, place of residence, acquaintances/friends, things they own, etc.

Chinese A1.2

641.578

- Prerequisite: Chinese A1.1
- €180
- 3 lessons/week
- 3 ECTS

Course times: see MUonline

CONTENT

After the course, participants will be able to

- apply the pronunciation rules of Chinese
- read and write simple characters
- express themselves in simple standard situations (e.g. introduce themselves) using very simple linguistic means and understand others in such situations if they speak slowly and show consideration
- ask people questions about themselves, e.g. name, place of residence, acquaintances/friends, things they own, etc.

University Preparation Program

- €571 per semester
- €50 per course

CONTENT

The preparation program of the University of Leoben offers you the possibility to prepare for supplementary examinations in German or English as well as for supplementary examinations in the subjects mathematics, physics and descriptive geometry. You can take the corresponding supplementary examinations as part of this course or also independently of the course. If you pass these exams, you will be optimally prepared for your studies at the University of Leoben.

Detailed information about the university preparation program is available on the homepage:

<https://ssc.unileoben.ac.at/en/interest-in-studies/university-preparation-programme>

Soft Skills

SUCCESS



Effective Presentation Skills in English - B2

641.598

Norbert Berger

- Prerequisite: B2
- €35
- Blocked sessions
- 1 ECTS

Course times: see MUonline

CONTENT

- Perfecting your presentation skills in English by engaging in group activities designed to provide students with experience of speaking in front of a group and emphasis on peer feedback
- This course aims at developing these skills and takes students systematically through the key stages of making presentations in English, from planning and introducing to concluding and handling questions.

Rhetoric Basics: The Science of Being Right

641.566

Norbert Berger

- Prerequisite: none
- €35
- 2 ECTS
- Blocked sessions

Course times: see MUonline

CONTENT

- Basic rhetorical and persuasive techniques
- Design and structuring of arguments, persuasive presentations, question-and-answer sessions, and discussions
- Preparation and delivery of persuasive and argumentative performances
- Rhetoric, critical analytical thinking, and argumentative skills
- Use of media to persuade

Rhetoric Basics: The Science of Being Right

641.527

Sigrid Maxl-Studler
(only in German)

- Prerequisite: none
- €35
- 2 ECTS

Course times: see MUonline

CONTENT

- Basic rhetorical and persuasive techniques
- Design and structuring of arguments, persuasive presentations, question-and-answer sessions, and discussions
- Preparation and delivery of persuasive and argumentative performances
- Rhetoric, critical analytical thinking, and argumentative skills
- Use of media to persuade

Advanced Rhetoric: The Science of Negotiating Win-Win

641.528

Sigrid Maxl-Studler
(in German)

- Prerequisite: none
- €35
- 2 ECTS
- Blocked sessions

Course times: see MUonline

CONTENT

- From conflict and persuasion to negotiation: mindsets for success
- Understanding positions and interests: the power of active listening
- Being hard on problems and soft on people: developing powers of empathy, process, and framing
- Creative problem solving and value creation for winners in (STEM) research and practice
- Collaborating and networking for success at work

Advanced Rhetoric: The Science of Negotiating Win-Win

641.524

Norbert Berger
(in English)

- Prerequisite: Rhetoric Basics
- €35
- 2 ECTS

Course times: see MUonline

CONTENT

- From conflict and persuasion to negotiation: mindsets for success
- Understanding positions and interests: the power of active listening
- Being hard on problems and soft on people: developing powers of empathy, process, and framing
- Creative problem solving and value creation for winners in (STEM) research and practice
- Collaborating and networking for success at work.

Intercultural Competence and Communication - B2

641.534

Leonore Peer

- Prerequisite: English B2
- €35
- Blocked sessions
- 1 ECTS

Course times: see MUonline

CONTENT

- Raising awareness of the importance of intercultural awareness and social competence when working with people from different cultural backgrounds
- Core topics: Dimensions of cultural diversity and their importance in the workplace
- Case studies in a professional context from a variety of countries

Fundamental Course in Philosophy & Ethics II (only in German)

641.526

Markus Plöbst

- Prerequisite: Philosophy and Ethics I
- €35
- 2 lessons/week
- 2 ECTS

Wednesdays 15:30 - 17:00

CONTENT

This course gives an introduction to philosophy in the time span between the Middle Ages and the present as well as to philosophers and philosophical trends of these periods. Furthermore, various ethical and philosophical considerations are dealt with.

Voluntary Social Work

641.060

Leonore Peer

- Prerequisite: see MUonline

- 4 ECTS

Course times: see MUonline

CONTENT

The students complete a voluntary activity with a recognized sponsoring association.

As part of their voluntary work, students

- voluntarily provide services for others
- within an organisational framework
- free of charge
- for people outside their own household
- with the purpose of promoting the general public or for predominantly social motives,
- without this being done with the intention of gainful employment, on the basis of an employment relationship or as part of vocational training.

MUL - Culture



Symphonic Wind Orchestra

641.301

Gloria Ammerer

Admission requirements: Mastery of a wind or percussion instrument

- 3 ECTS

- 3 class hours/week

Thursdays 18:30 - 20:30

CONTENT

- Regular rehearsals
- Traditional wind music
- Development of symphonic structures of a music society

Choral Singing

641.154

Sarah Kettner

Admission requirements: Members of the University of Leoben "from beginners to Vienna Boys' Choir" are eligible to participate

- 3 ECTS

- 3 class hours/week

Tuesdays 19:00 - 21:00

CONTENT

Preservation and care of traditional songs of the fields miner-, student-, lansquenet- and drinking songs.

To get to know other fields: motet, miner mass, folk songs from Europe and America, comparison of handed down forms of songs with contemporary compositions.

Culture

641.062

Leonore Peer

- 1 ECTS
- Prerequisite: none
- Practical type

Course times: see MUonline

CONTENT

Students engage informally with culture on their own initiative and by attending cultural events of their choice. These may be concerts, theater performances, museums, exhibits, etc. It is also possible to read (literary) books independently or to agree on a book that will be discussed at a meeting during the course.

As part of the course, students reflect on their cultural experiences in a portfolio and prepare one of their cultural experiences for others to understand (blog, forum, presentation, short video, etc.). When reflecting on their cultural experiences, students research the event, the artists, the artwork, etc. The use of artificial intelligence (AI) is also considered in the preparation.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **When do the courses start?**

All courses (except blocked courses) start in the first week of the summer term (beginning 03.03.2025).

- **Do the courses start s.t. or c.t.?**

All courses start s.t., which means exactly at the specified time.

- **Is attendance mandatory in the courses?**

Yes, since the courses are “integrated courses,” attendance is mandatory.

- **Can I get ECTS for the courses?**

All courses can be credited as electives.

- **Do I need prior knowledge to attend a language course?**

All language courses (except English) start at beginner level. English courses start at level B1. If you already have skills, please select your level. We will be happy to help you find your course.

- **Can I take the courses for credit as an elective subject?**

All courses can be credited as elective subjects.

- **What language certificates are available and how can I obtain them?**

Courses are offered to prepare for the following internationally recognized certificates: TOEFL & IELTS, DELE-Spanish level (A1 - C1).

The certificate examinations are taken at the relevant institutions outside the University of Leoben. Detailed information regarding registration deadlines, examination fees.

and examination dates can be obtained from the lecturers in the courses.

- **Who is allowed to participate in the courses?**

All students and staff of the University of Leoben as well as students of other universities in Austria are eligible to participate.

- **How can I register for the courses?**

You can register for the courses at MUonline.

- **How much do the courses cost?**

The price of each course depends on the ECTS points; with 4 ECTS points € 50.

points €45, with 2 ECTS points €35, and with 1 ECTS point € 35.

- **How do I pay for the course?**

Payment for the course can be made by bank transfer to the following account:

Bank account: Steiermärkische Sparkasse

Recipient: ZSBK University of Leoben

IBAN: AT61 2081 5000 4126 9531

Please indicate the 6-digit course number and your matriculation number as purpose of payment.

- **What happens if I do not pay the course fee on time?**
If you do not pay the course fee on time, you will be re-registered on the waiting list and your place will be given to another student.
- **When can I register?**
Registration is possible from 07.01.2024 at MUonline.
- **Can I also pay in cash in person?**
Yes, please come during office hours and by **prior appointment.**
Monday & Wednesday: 09.00 - 13:00 & 14.30 - 15.30
Tuesday: 09.00 - 11.30
Thursday: 09:00 - 12:30
- **Do I have to pay for the course immediately?**
Please transfer the course fee by 28.02.2025. After that, your place will be given to someone else.
- **How many participants are required for a course to take place?**
A course takes place with at least 10 participants.
"Philosophy & Ethics" starts with min. 14 participants.
- **What is the maximum number of participants?**
A maximum of 20 participants can take part in language courses and seminars.
- **Where can I get information about the time and place of the course?**
Information on the start of the course and the venue can be found at MUonline.
- **I am on the waiting list. Should I still transfer the course fee?**
Please only transfer the course fee if you have a fixed spot.

- **Do I have to take an exam at the end of the semester?**

In our language courses, we have continuous assessment. To successfully complete the course, you must meet the course requirements (e.g. attendance, homework, final exam, etc.), which you can find at MUonline. Your instructor will explain the details in the course.

- **I have registered for a course and now do not want to take part. Can I still cancel my registration?**

You can deregister from a course or transfer to another course until 14.03.2025 without giving reasons. After this deadline, you can deregister only in exceptional cases (confirmed serious illness, accident, etc.).

- **I am a university employee; how can I register?**

If you are a university employee, please contact our office at 03842-402/6410 or by email: zsbk@unileoben.ac.at

Any Other Questions?

Feel free to contact us:

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Jennifer Fink

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